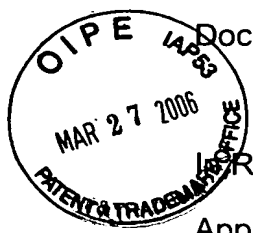


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Docket Number: 071469-0308546

Client Reference: RAJ-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of TARO IKEDA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1762

Application No.: 10/813,680

Examiner:

Filed: March 31, 2004

Confirmation No.: 4353

For: METHOD OF FORMING A METAL LAYER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no copy of the cited U.S. patent publication is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey D. Karceski
Registration Number 35914
Customer Number: 00909

Date: March 27, 2006

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
Telephone: (703) 770-7900
Facsimile: (703) 770-7901
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102



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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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Application Number

10/813.680

Filing Date

03/31/2004

First Named Inventor

TARO IKEDA

Art Unit

1762

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

071469-0308546

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible...⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37. CFR 1.97, and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application.. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C.. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO.. Time will vary depending upon the individual case.. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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